

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

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FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6560

S E C R E T LAGOS 9989

STADIS//////////

EYES ONLY SCHAUFEL FROM EASUM

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: KISSINGER/VORSTER MEETING AND YOUR VISIT TO NIGERIA

REF: STATE 214416

1. MY TALK WITH GARBA AUGUST 27 (SEPTTEL) REINFORCES VIEW I PUT TO YOU RECENTLY IN WASHINGTON TO EFFECT THAT FMG FEELS LEFT OUT OF CURRENT DIPLOMATIC DIALOGUES ON SOUTHERN AFRICA AND THAT WE SHOULD BE CAREFUL NOT TO ENCOURAGE POLARIZATION OF AFRICAN ATTITUDES IN THIS REGARD.

2. I RECALL AND SHARE YOUR CONCERN THAT WE CANNOT NECESSARILY INFORM OR CONFIDE IN NIGERIANS TO THE SAME DEGREE AS WITH THE FRONTLINE PRESIDENTS AND PERHAPS "CONSERVATIVES" LIKE HOUPHOUET AND SENHOR. I NONETHELESS URGE THAT NIGERIA BE INCLUDED IN THE PROPOSED CONSULTATIONS WITH AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS CONCERNING THE RESULTS OF THE ZURICH TALKS.

3. AND IDELA WAY TO HANDLE THIS WOULD BE FOR YOU TO BRING THE WORD YOURSELF, BUT NOT RPT NO AFTER YOU OR OTHER EMISSARIES HAVE VISITED ALL THE OTHERS FIRST. INCLUDING LAGOS EARLY IN THE ITINERARY WOULD BE A WELCOME SIGNAL HERE. IT WOULD COME AT PARTICULARLY APPROPRIATE TIME IN AFTERMATH OF ROWLANDS/DUFF VISIT EXPECTED LATER THIS WEEK.

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4. SEVERAL POSSIBLE OTHER WAYS OF MAKING THIS COMMUNICATION COME

TO MIND. I SHOULD OF COURSE BE PLEASED MYSELF TO CONVEY REPORT
TO GARBA ON ZURICH RESULTS. FOLLOWING SECRETARY'S REVIEW OF
RESULTS WITH BRITISH IN LONDON, MESSAGE RESPONSIVE TO NIGERIAN
SENSITIVITIES (AND TAILORED TO WHATEVER LIMITATIONS WE MAY WISH
TO IMPOSE ON DEGREE TO WHICH WE CONFIDE IN FMG) COULD BE SENT
TO ME FOR DELIVERY TO GARBA. ANOTHER WAY WOULD BE TO SEND
SEITZ FROM LONDON TO LAGOS (AND PERHAPS SELECTED OTHER POSTS) PRO-
VIDED HE IS INCLUDED IN LONDON CONVERSATIONS WITH BRITISH OR IN
SUBSEQUENT DEBRIEFINGS. STILL ANOTHER ALTERNATIVE WOULD BE FOR
SECRETARY HIMSELF TO BRIEF SELECTED AMERICAN AMBASSADORS FROM
AFRICA IN LONDON NEXT WEEK. AS FAR AS NIGERIA IS CONCERNED, THE
CHANNEL WE USE IS LESS IMPORTANT THAN NOT MISSING THIS OPPORTUN-
ITY TO SHOW FMG THAT THEY ARE NOT A PARIAH AS FAR AS OUR
SOUTHERN AFRICAN DIPLOMACY IS
CONCERNED AND THAT WE ARE WILLING TO LEVEL WITH THEM.
EASUM

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